

Docket No.: SHO-0041

Confirmation No.: 9729

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kazuo Okada

Application No.: 10/697,080

Filed: October 31, 2003 Art Unit: 3711

For: GAMING MACHINE Examiner: B. Layno

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- M A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98
 - \boxtimes excluding a copy of U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication as waived by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 or has entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003 (1276 OG 55).

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

06/30/2006 HALI11 00000049 180013 10697080

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1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the Issue Fee (37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)). Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. The Patent Office is authorized to charge deposit account 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(d)(2) and 1.17(p) in view of the statement below.

- a. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- 2. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SHO-0041. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: June 29, 2006

Respectfully submitted

Carl Schaukowitch

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PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

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Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO Application Number 10/697,080-Conf. #9729 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date October 31, 2003 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor Kazuo Okada Art Unit 3711 (Use as many sheets as necessary) Examiner Name B. Layno SHO-0041 Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
	AA	US-5,920,256	07-06-1999	Toffolo et al.				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (<i>il known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶		

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